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TO: IMMEDIATE WHITE HOUSE//SITUATION ROOM FOR MR FAZIO.

WEARNING NOTICE SENSITIVE INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND METHODS

INVOLVED

ITEM NO: MH-P

DATE: JUNE 14, 1974

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SUBJECT: POSSIBLE ROMANIAN WITHDRAWAL FROM MBFR

REF

BUCHAREST HAS DECIDED TO

WITHDRAW ITS DELEGATION FROM THE MBFR TALKS. THE ROMANIANS HAVE LONG BEEN UNHAPPY OVER THEIR LIMITED ABILITY TO INFLUENCE THE TALKS, WHICH THEY DESCRIBE AS "SALT WITH WITNESSES."

BUCHAREST IS ESPECIALLY DIS-

APPOINTED IN THE US FOR NEGOTIATING BLOC-TO-BLOC. CEAUSESCU BELIEVES THAT BIMPOLARIZATION PLAYS INTO THE HANDS OF THE SOVIETS. EFFECTIVELY NEUTRALIZING ROMANIA'S FREEDOM OF ACTION ON ISSUES OF VITAL NATIONAL CONCERN.

WHILE BUCHARMEST IS SINCERE IN ITS DISAPPOINTMENT WITH THE COUMRSE OF MBFR, THE TIMING OF THE THREAT TO WITHDRAW MAY BE

DATE:

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SENSITIVE

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AN ATTEMPT TO DRAW ATTENTION TO ITS VIEWS BEFORE THE US-SOVIET SUMMIT MEETING. ALWAYS SENSITIVE ABOUT PRIVATE NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE GREAT POWERS, BUCHAREST SEEMS ESPECIALLY CONCERNED NOW ABOUT POTENTIAL US-SOVIET "DEALS" ON EUROPEAN SECURITY AND FORCE REDUCTION.

THEY WILL WITHDRAW QUIETLY.

UNDER THE GUISE OF RETURNING HOME FOR CONSULTATIONS. THIS

PRESERVES A WIDE RANGE OF OPTIONS FOR BUCHAREST. THE

ROMANIANS HAVE REPORTEDLY WARNED MMOSCOW THAT ANY PRESSURE

TACTICS RISK A PUBLIC DISPLAY OF DIFFERENCES. E-2, IMPDETMM.H

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